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ORIGINALUnited States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3002COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BUDGET  
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS  
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HELSINKI COMMISSION

July 15, 1999

The Honorable William Kennard  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to express the concerns of my broadcast constituents about the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that the FCC has begun regarding microradio.

I understand the Commission is giving serious consideration to adding new low-power stations to the airwaves. New Jersey broadcasters are concerned that this will result in damaging interference to existing stations. I understand and applaud the Commission's goals of providing opportunities for community-oriented radio broadcasting and promoting diversity in the offering of radio services. However, the Commission must take care to ensure that existing broadcast services are maintained in a relatively interference-free environment.

I urge the Commission to move slowly and thoughtfully in authorizing any new low-power FM stations. American listeners depend on local broadcasters for important local news, weather and emergency bulletins, public affairs and other programming. The FCC should remain cautious on this issue and should ensure that access to existing programming is not put at risk.

Sincerely,



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